1	2	3	4	5	6
20.	Orissa	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
21.	Punjab	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
22.	Rajasthan	No	No	No	Yes
23.	SIkkim	Yes	No	Yes	No
24.	Tamil Nadu*	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
25.	Tripura	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
26.	Uttar Pradesh	No	No	Yes	No
27.	Uttarakhand	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
28.	West Bengal	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
29.	Delhi	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
30.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
31.	Chandigarh	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveti	No	Yes	No	Yes
33.	Daman & Diu	No	Yes	No	Yes
34.	Lakshadweep	No	No	No	No
35.	Puducherry	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

* State implementing its own Act.

Amendment to communication scheme for EPF pensioners

527. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any existing pension and pension commutation scheme for EPF Pensioners;

(b) if so, whether Government has made any amendment to existing schemes;

(c) whether the amendments if made, had provided additional financial benefits to the pensioners than previously enjoyed by them; and

(d) whether any decision to retrieve the earlier benefits under earlier scheme for pensioners has been made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) Yes, Sir. The Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 had a provision for commutation of pension in it.

(b) Yes, Sir. Provision for commutation of pension has been withdrawn with effect from 26.09.2008 *vide* Gazette notification number G.S.R. 688 (E) dated 26.09.2008.

(c) and (d) The withdrawal of provisions for commutation of pension has not reduced any benefit in pension. This has been done with a view to make the pension scheme more efficient and sustainable.

Revision of minimum wages

528. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how revision of minimum wage is carried out by Ministry;

(b) the sector-wise figure/amount of minimum wage in unskilled, semi-skilled and skilled category of workers as on 31st March, 2008;

(c) whether Government has revised minimum wages in Oil Exploration Industry; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) The norms recommended by the Indian Labour Conference, in 1957 for fixing the minimum wage are as follows:-

i) 3 consumption units for one earner.

ii) Minimum food requirements of 2700 calories per average Indian adult.

iii) Clothing requirements of 72 yards per annum per family.

iv) Rent corresponding to the minimum area provided for under Government's Industrial Housing Scheme.

v) Fuel, lighting and other miscellaneous items of expenditure to constitute 20% of the total minimum wage.

In the year 1992, the Supreme Court delivered a judgment in the case of Reptakos & Co. *Vs.* its workers pronouncing that the children's education, medical requirement, minimum recreation including festivals/ceremonies, provision for old age, marriage etc. should further constitute 25% of the minimum wage and used as a guide in fixation of minimum wage. The appropriate Governments keep the above said norms and judicial pronouncement in view while fixing/revising the minimum wages.

(b) to (d) Under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, both Central and State Governments are the appropriate Governments to notify any employment in the schedule where the number of employees is 1000 or more and fix the rates of minimum wages in respect of the employees employed therein under their respective jurisdictions. Sector-wise minimum wages are not fixed.

Under Section 3(1) (b) of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the minimum rates of wages are reviewed/revised at such interval not exceeding five years. Minimum rates of wages for different categories of workers in different scheduled employments in the Central Sphere is applicable to the Oil Exploration Industry as well, details of which are given in the Statement.